

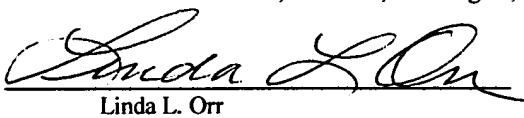


1645
12
D
81-3101
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. SMAR.P-001
PATENT APPLICATION
December 18, 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments named herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 12-18-00.

12-18-00
Date of Signature


Linda L. Orr

RECEIVED

Applicant : Mardh DEC 27 2000
Serial No. : 09/678,357
International Filing Date : October 4, 2000
Title : Screening method for gastritis TECH CENTER 1800/2800

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced patent application please make the following changes:

Page 17, Table 1, Serological Group: Please delete the numbers "0.041667" and insert - -1A- -. Please delete the number "0.08333333" and insert - -2A- -.

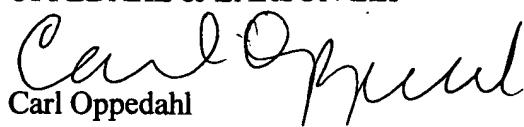
Page 18, Table 1, Serological Group: Please delete the numbers "0.125" and insert - -3A- -. Please delete the number "0.166667" and insert - -4A- -.

Page 20, Table 2, Serological Group: Please delete the numbers "0.04166667" and insert - -1A- -. Please delete the numbers "0.0.08333353" and insert - -2A- -.

Page 21, Table 2, Serological Group: Please delete the numbers "0.125" and insert - -3A- -. Please delete the numbers "0.1666667" and insert - -4A- -.

Respectfully submitted,

OPPEDAHL & LARSON LLP


Carl Oppedahl
Reg. No. 32,746
P.O. Box 5068
Dillon, Co. 80435-5068